

# WARREN SENTINEL



"Jolly Rogers"

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Volume 65, Issue 7

F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo.

Feb. 17, 2006

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February is African American  
Heritage Month



## EXERCISE READY

Airman 1st Class Cody Foreman, 90th Civil Engineer Squadron, goes over proper radiological monitoring techniques and areas of responsibility with members of the initial radiological monitoring team during an exercise Feb. 7. The exercise was designed to enhance the wing's nuclear weapons accident response capabilities and prepare for the upcoming CAPEX.

Photo by Senior Airman Andrew O'Brien

Chadwell  
competes  
for  
Hennessy 9



SELM tests  
ICBM  
capabilities 12



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# Commentary

## Children's Dental Health Month: A reminder for everyone

Senior Airman Kelly Zaiser  
90th Medical Group

With February designated as National Children's Dental Health Month, I'm compelled to urge everybody to remember their teeth as part of their daily hygiene routine. In the dental clinic, we see a variety of cavities. The cavities we see are result from various eating habits, brushing habits and all around apathy to healthy teeth.

Eating habits have a profound effect on our teeth. Many of us, myself included, drink a lot of soft drinks. Not only do these drinks have a high sugar content, they are also very acidic. This sugary, acidic environment is highly favorable for the cavity causing bacteria. Diet drinks don't have sugar, but are still acidic enough to help the bacteria thrive. All these drinks, including sports drinks, create an acidic environment for up to 20 minutes. That means 20 minutes of teeth dissolving in acid, which makes it easier for plaque and bacteria to cause cavities.

I'm not saying that everybody needs to cut out the sugary drinks. The problem arises when these drinks are sipped on throughout the day without any brushing or something to neutralize the acid. Drinks at meal times are OK because food buffers the acid and allows the body to neutralize the acidic balance in the mouth. Brushing in the middle of the day, after partaking of sugary substances, can greatly reduce the amount of cavity causing bacteria, and thereby reduce the amount of cavities. Who wouldn't want that?

There are many things that can be done to help reduce the amount of plaque and bacteria throughout the

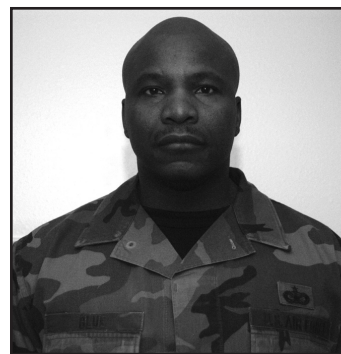
day. Chewing gum with Xylitol (dental gum) during those times when carrying a toothbrush is an inconvenience, can also help neutralize pH (acidity). Another snack to consider in lieu of chewing gum is cheese. Hard cheeses, such as cheddar and Swiss, also can reduce the ph.

For those of you who already have numerous appointments with us, fluoride is your best friend. Fluoride ranges from the smaller amount in regular toothpaste, to prescription strength gel. We recommend a daily fluoride rinse, as well as regular cleanings with fluoride treatments. Fluoride also comes in prescription strength toothpaste and gel. These are usually reserved for patients in a "high" risk category for cavities.

Please remember your teeth this year by cutting down sugary drinks and snacks in between meals. Remember that it's the afternoon lag that drives us to sugarize ourselves for enough energy to get to the end of the day that is destroying our teeth. That's when it becomes essential to brush, floss, chew dental gum or snack on cheese to buffer teeth against cavities. Then, hopefully, we will only need to see you once a year for your annual exam.

## Street Talk

*The Warren Sentinel asked Warren members, "What did you do for Valentine's Day?"*



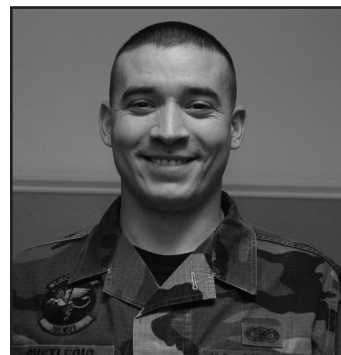
"I gave my wife her gift the day before, the traditional stuff like chocolates, and we relaxed yesterday."

- **Tech. Sgt. Eddie Blue, 90th Security Support Squadron**



"I stayed home, cooked dinner and went to bed early."

- **Airman 1st Class Alicia Tamura, 90th Mission Support Squadron**



"I made my wife a card, bought her a necklace and made her a picture frame with me and my three kids in it. And we ate Texas Roadhouse at home."

- **Senior Airman Shaun Svetlecic, 790th Missile Security Forces Squadron**



"I got take-out from Chili's and ate at home with my wife and kids."

- **Staff Sgt. Charles Roach, 90th Logistics Readiness Squadron**

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Articles are due to public affairs, Building 250, room 201, by 4:30 p.m. Thursday the week before publication. Classified ads are due by 11 a.m. Tuesday the week of publication.

Classified ads can also be dropped off or mailed to Wyoming Newspapers, Inc., 202 E. 18th St., by 1 p.m. Tuesday the week of publication. Articles and ads that don't meet these deadlines won't be considered for that week's issue. Edito-

rial content is edited, prepared and provided by 90th Space Wing Public Affairs of Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., of Air Force Space Command. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. Public affairs reserves the right to edit content to conform to style and space requirements. Articles run on a space-available basis.

Direct questions or comments to the SENTINEL at 773-3381 or e-mail at [Sentinel@warren.af.mil](mailto:Sentinel@warren.af.mil).

Published by:  
Wyoming Newspapers, Inc.  
202 E. 18th St., Cheyenne, WY, 82005  
(307) 632-5666  
[Sentinel@warren.af.mil](mailto:Sentinel@warren.af.mil)

# DUI: Unacceptable, period

## Don't become a statistic

**Col. Jack Weinstein**  
*30th Space Wing Commander*

**VANDENBERG AFB, Calif.,** - One American life is lost every 22 minutes in an alcohol-related traffic collision, and 50 percent of Americans will be involved in an alcohol-involved traffic collision sometime during their lifetime, according to the California Highway Patrol.

If that doesn't scare you, it should. Drinking and driving is a problem in this country, not only for those who do it, but also for those of us who are simply trying to go about life, following the rules and doing things right. Safety is as much about you as it is about them.

In Wyoming, the law specifically states that it is unlawful for any person who is under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or drug, or under the combined influence of any alcoholic beverage and drug, to drive a vehicle. It is also unlawful for any person who has 0.08 percent or more, by weight, of alcohol in his or her blood to drive a vehicle.

I don't understand drinking and driving. I don't understand how someone can willingly break the law. It's very simple to me, if you drink, you don't drive. If you

do drink, you have a plan to get back home safely before you take the first sip.

The split second that the beer or alcoholic drink hits your lips for the first time is too late. By then, you've already put yourself in a position to make bad, irrational choices. You'll think that things will be OK even if you don't have a plan and even if you have to drive. In movies, everything seems to work out in those situations; they even try to make it funny. I can assure you though, in real life, those who plan wake up alive. Those who don't, risk killing themselves or—even worse—killing others.

There's no excuse for drinking and driving. There's no excuse for thinking you're above the law. If you do it, it's not a matter of if you'll get caught, it's when.

One DUI for any wing is too many. Drinking is dangerous business. If you choose to have a drink or two, that's your choice. It affects all of us, however, when you drink irresponsibly or, even worse, get behind the wheel.

I think you'd agree that when the lights come up in the bar and the music stops, you aren't in any position to think things through or to think about your options. You must have a plan in place

**"BE ONE STEP AHEAD OF THE GAME ALL THE TIME. YOU KNOW THE RULES. YOU KNOW HOW YOU'LL FEEL. AND YOU'VE SEEN ENOUGH PEOPLE MAKE THE WRONG CHOICE TO KNOW WHAT'S RIGHT."**

**- Col. Jack Weinstein**  
*30th Space Wing Commander*

well beforehand with dependable, reliable, true friends who care about you and care about being alive.

Know your limits and know your friends. Be honest with yourself and each other. When the weekend first appears on the radar, get the plan together first thing. Don't wait for the rallying point; don't wait for the ride to the bar. Come up with a plan first and make sure that your driver is up to the challenge and willing to pay the price of one weekend without any drinks.

Be one step ahead of the game all the time. You know the rules. You know how you'll feel. And you've seen enough people make the wrong choice to know what's right.

Even if things go wrong, even if the driver in your group lets

you down, you still have other options. At that time of the night, you're probably tired, hungry, and restless. Through it all, remember your base command post will always answer the phone and connect you with someone who will help. You don't need to have a roster or a card in your pocket. All you need is a phone and the courage to prevent a bad situation from getting worse.

Your squadron leaders or the Airman Against Drunk Driving team will drop everything to take care of you. All of us just want you back safely. Don't believe for a minute that things will be OK on their own.

Have a plan with your friends before taking the first sip. There is simply no other way to ensure your safety and the safety of everyone else.

FPA



# AFAF campaign runs now through May 5

## Members may contribute to up to four official Air Force charities

**PETERSON AFB, Colo.**

- This year's Air Force Assistance Fund "Commitment to Caring" campaign, running from Monday to May 5, will provide Airmen the opportunity to contribute to any of the four official Air Force charitable organizations.

Now in its 33rd year, 100 percent of designated AFAF contributions benefit active-duty, Reserve and Guard Airmen, their surviving spouses and families. Last year, participating Airmen exceeded the campaign goal as they contributed more than \$7.3 million, according to the Air Force Personnel Center.

Lt. Col. Sandy Featherston, Individual Mobilization Augmentee to the Chief of Complaints Resolution, Air Force Space Command Inspector General office, is the command's AFAF representative. She said the points of contact for the campaign have been named at each installation and they've received their

campaign goals.

"They're all very excited," she said. "They've done a great job in the past of reaching or exceeding their goals."

Colonel Featherston said Airmen can contribute to four different funds through AFAF. They are the Air Force Aid Society, Air Force Enlisted Village Indigent Widows' Fund, Air Force Village Indigent Widows' Fund and the General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation.

Although the AFAF campaign runs from Feb. 13 to May 5, each installation's campaign will run for only six weeks within the eight-week time period. Headquarters AFSPC's campaign runs from March 6 to April 14. Warren's runs March 13 to April 21.

"I want to extend General Lord's appreciation to all the volunteers out there," said Lt. Gen. Frank Klotz, AFSPC Vice Commander. "It's a lot of work, but it's



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Raheem Moore

**Air Force Space Command Vice Commander Lt. Gen. Frank Klotz officially kicked off the command's Air Force Assistance Fund campaign Feb. 13. Master Sgt. Barry Royx, Directorate of Operations, is the Headquarters AFSPC AFAF representative, and Lt. Col. Sandy Featherston, AFSPC Inspector General office, is the command's representative.**

an important cause."

Airmen need to look no further than the aftermath of the hurricanes that devastated portions of the southern United States to understand the benefit the fund provides the Air Force community. Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley addressed this recently in a joint memorandum for the Air Force Assistance Fund:

"Last year, hurricanes Katrina and Rita vividly demonstrated the need for rapid and reliable emergency assistance. Our four AFAF charities ... provided immediate financial and housing assistance to our active duty, reserve, Air National Guard and retired Air Force members. This was in addition to their normal ongoing assistance with the hardships of deployments, accidents, illness, aging and death."

People can contribute

through cash, check, money order or payroll deduction to:

- The Air Force Aid Society, which provides Airmen and their families with worldwide emergency financial assistance, education assistance and an array of base level community-enhancement programs. Base family support centers have full details on programs and eligibility requirements. Information is also available online at <http://www.afas.org/>.

- The Air Force Enlisted Village Indigent Widow's Fund in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., near Eglin AFB, provides rent subsidy and other support to indigent widows and widowers of retired enlisted people 55 and older. More information is available at <http://www.afenlistedwidows.org>.

- The Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund in San Antonio, a life-care community for retired officers,

spouses, widows or widowers and family members. The Air Force Village Web site is <http://www.airforcevillages.com>.

- The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation provides rent and financial assistance to indigent widows and widowers of officers and enlisted people in their own homes and communities. The LeMay Foundation Web site is <http://www.lemayfoundation.org/>.

Contributions to the AFAF are tax deductible. For more information, visit <http://afassistancefund.org> or the Air Force Personnel Center's Voting and Fundraising Web site at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/votefund>.

For more information about each installation's AFAF campaign, Airmen should contact their unit's AFAF representative.

(Information courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs)

### AIR FORCE ASSISTANCE FUND AT WARREN

- AFAF WILL RUN MARCH 13 TO APRIL 21 HERE

- 90TH SPACE WING AFAF REPRESENTATIVES:  
CAPT. MICHAEL HOBSON, 90TH MEDICAL  
OPERATIONS SQUADRON, 773-3406, AND CAPT.  
LISA LEE, 90TH MEDICAL SUPPORT SQUADRON,  
773-3636

- UNIT POCs WILL BE ANNOUNCED SOON.

- WARREN'S GOAL: \$46,480





Briefs

Police tip

During winter, many people like to warm up their vehicles before leaving for work or let them run while going into the shoppette. What the average person doesn't know is it's against the law. The Wyoming statue 31-5-509 "Requirements before leaving motor vehicle unattended," states no person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall permit it to stand unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition, effectively setting the brake thereon and, when standing upon any grade, turning the front wheels to the curb or side of the highway. This includes cars with remote keyless starters as well. The fine for this is \$30 and, if done on base, will cost the offender three points toward base driving privileges.

Gate 5 opening

Gate 5 is scheduled to open for morning traffic Tuesday. Gate 5 will be open from 6 to 8 a.m. weekdays excluding holidays for a 60-day test to determine if it will help alleviate morning traffic at Gates 1 and 2. All personnel traveling from the north are encouraged to use Gate 5 during their morning commute.

Annual Awards Banquet

The 2005 Annual Awards Banquet is scheduled for Feb. 24 at the Trail's End Club. The cost is \$18 for members and \$20 for non-members. Social hour begins at 6 p.m., with the main ceremony starting at 7 p.m. Contact your group representative for tickets and more information. The deadline for ticket sales is Wednesday.

90 MDG: Master Sgt. Frederick Carson, 773-3305

90 MXG: Senior Master Sgt. David McClain, 773-2259

90 SFG: Senior Master Sgt. Bertell Francois, 773-4569

90 MSG: Master Sgt. Rebecca Weber, 773-2043

90 OG: Master Sgt. Michael Whittaker, 773-4210

90 SW: Master Sgt. Robert Hughes, 773-2256



Photo by Ken Johnston

CAMERA ONE

First Lt. Je Raley, 90th Civil Engineer Squadron, tests a thermal camera received from Western Area Power Administration under an equipment lending program recently. The camera is used to check high temperature hot-water lines for leaks and the condition of insulation without having to remove lids. It can also detect places where the insulation has failed and small leaks that can't normally be found without digging up pipes.

90 SFG spouses unveil new group

Members hope group will be a support system

Senior Airman  
Lauren Hasinger  
90th Space Wing Public Affairs

Spouses of 90th Security Forces Group members have developed a plan to be a support group for each other, and to mentor new spouses: the 90th Security Forces Spouses Group.

With more than 1,100 members, the 90 SFG is the largest group on base.

Charmaine Jamerson is the wife of 90 SFG Commander Col. Allen Jamerson. She hopes the group will be able to mentor newer spouses to Warren as well as those new to the Air Force. She also wants the group to be a support resource for spouses when their Airmen deploy.

"We recognized the fact that the

numerous security forces spouses on Warren are able to assist new spouses, as well as serve as resources to each other," said Mrs. Jamerson. "Our goal is for spouses to know that they have an avenue to get answers."

Though relatively new, the group is already planning activities for its members. In an effort to understand the environment where their spouses work, the group is organizing a tour of 90 SFG work areas, such as learning to fire the weapons their spouses use, seeing the military working dogs in action and visiting a mock launch facility.

"Being a military spouse can be lonely, stressful and confusing," said Mrs. Jamerson. "We want all spouses to know that we are all in this together, and that they have



an outlet for answers or support. We are here to support each other as spouses of the military members who have the toughest jobs in the Air Force."

For more information on the 90 SFG Spouses Group, contact Angela Massman at 773-2097.

NSI TIP: POTENTIALLY DISQUALIFYING INFORMATION

Potentially disqualifying information covers all aspects of an individual's life. PDI is anything that affects the physical, mental, emotional status, conduct or character, on or off duty that could cast doubt on his or her ability to perform nuclear-related duties. It is the responsibility of the individual certified in the Personnel Reliability Program to monitor their own reliability and notify their certifying official immediately of any PDI. This includes the responsibility to report all medical care received.

PDI must always be reported to your certifying official. It is a vital part of PRP.

For more information, call Warren PRP Manager, Tech. Sgt. David Morrow, at 773-3490.



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Full Page ad





Photo by Bernie Ernst

## GOURMET COOKING

Peter Mihajlov, Hennessy evaluator, inspects Airman 1st Class Emily Klauke (left), Airman Kip Holmstead (right), and Staff Sgt. Sabrina Hawkins (far right), 90th Services Squadron, as they prepare pasta primavera for the lunchtime meal at Chadwell Dining Facility Feb. 9. The Hennessy Award recognizes excellence in Air Force food service. Top Performers: Airman Kip Holmstead (Production Chef), Maria Banyi (Fresh Express), Betty Powell (Fresh Express), Leslie Schiele (Fresh Express), Airman Brandon E. Triplett (Production Chef), Elio Pampanaupa (Fresh Express), Soledad Flannery (Fresh Express), Helen Beaver (Fresh Express), Airman 1st Class Joelina Diaz (Baker), Tech. Sgt. Barbara Herzer (Accounting/QAP), Tech. Sgt. Kristen Salinas (Readiness), Senior Airman Jesse Cepeda-Ochoa (Shift Leader), 2006 Air Force Hennessy Traveler Award nominee: Staff Sgt. Sabrina Hawkins (Shift Leader).

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# SELM tests capabilities of ICBM weapon system

Program began in 1973, and is typically performed at each 20 AF base every two years

**2nd Lt. Josh Edwards**  
90th Space Wing Public Affairs

A Simulated Electronic Launch Minuteman team convened at Warren for six weeks to test the intercontinental ballistic missile weapon systems in their deployed environment.

Members of the 576th Flight Test Squadron at Vandenberg AFB, Calif., are working with key 90th Space Wing personnel, missile maintainers, operators and technicians to evaluate Warren's Minuteman III weapon system and ensure its capabilities for a successful launch.

The SELM program began in 1973, and typically is performed at each Twentieth Air Force base every two years. The current SELM is special due to the test implementation of new software that will help improve the system, said Capt. Bob Colpitts, Test Director for the 576 FLTS.

The SELM team tests the weapon system up to but not including first-stage ignition of the missile at Twentieth AF bases. The actual launching of the missile is tested at Vandenberg, explained Capt. Scott Head, Test Conductor for the 576 FLTS.

Lt. Col. Jeff Frankhouser, 90th Maintenance Group Deputy Commander is the Test Support Manager for the 90 SW SELM, and is responsible for assuring readiness for the SELM at the wing level.

"This SELM is unique from all

the others because we are testing the capability to interface with the new Safety Enhanced Reentry Vehicle, which is the future deployment of weapons on Minuteman," said Colonel Frankhouser. "Additionally, we're also testing new command and control software. It's probably the most significant upgrade to the Minuteman weapon system in over 10 years."

The new command and control software, mentioned by Colonel Frankhouser, was implemented into the system was Feb. 8.

This SELM is unique because codes at both the launch facility and launch control center were updated at the same time, said Capt. Tim Morgan, 90th Operations Support Squadron, who was responsible for monitoring the code changes.

During a SELM, two launch control centers and six missiles are taken off alert, making them incapable of actually launching. At the launch control center, the launch control panel and launch enable panel are switched out with test codes. Maintainers also physically isolate the capsules from the rest of the squadron by disconnecting communication lines between the test launch facility and any other non-test launch facility, creating a mini-SELM squadron, said Captain Colpitts.

Once the SELM launch facilities are isolated and interfaced with the command and control



Photo by Senior Airman Lauren Hasinger

**Capt. Bob Colpitts (left), Simulated Electronic Launch Minuteman Test Director, and Capt. Scott Head (right), SELM Test Conductor, conduct tests Tuesday at the command post here.**

software, they are ready for a simulated launch. The 576 FLTS personnel use a test sequence document they've created to simulate a launch without actually launching the missile. Top wing leadership is on hand to witness this event, said Captain Colpitts.

"With the 'simulated' part of the name, people tend to think that we're not really doing actions," said Capt. Olek Wojnar, Test Manager for the 576 FLTS. "However, other than some safety precautions we take to make sure the missile doesn't actually launch, all the commands that we issue and the reaction of the missile [are] real. It's all as realistic as possible, short of the missile taking off."

Colonel Frankhouser stressed the amount of planning and preparation that went into the SELM, especially the tremendous amount of training on the part of the maintainers. The wing started preparing for the test in Septem-

ber, said the colonel.

Capt. Eric Chin, 90th Operations Support Squadron, has been responsible for training the missile operating crews that are involved in SELM.

"This is the culmination of hundreds of hours of hard work," said Captain Chin.

Unlike an inspection, the wing doesn't get an evaluation grade for the results of the SELM.

"We don't test what [the operators and maintainers] do. That's what the inspections are for. We test the weapon system, and any problems that we find out, we provide that data to higher headquarters. That allows for the sustainment and continued use of the weapon system," said Captain Colpitts.

"This is a grade on the readiness of an entire weapon system, the readiness of a nuclear deterrent capability," said Colonel Frankhouser. "It's a report card that has global implications."



# 4320th SMW: Pioneer of peace

**Master Sgt. Bill Medema**  
*20th Air Force Historian*  
**Tech. Sgt. Michael Byrd**  
**Tech. Sgt. Alan Landers**  
**Staff Sgt. Michael**  
**Abrams**  
*90th Space Wing Historians*

The 90th Space Wing has safeguarded the security of the United States with the Minuteman Missile since February 1963. However, the history of intercontinental ballistic missiles at Warren reaches even before the activation of the Mighty Ninety.

Before Minuteman achieved operational capability at the base, missileers stood alert on the Wyoming prairie with Atlas D missiles. To control those missiles, the Air Force activated the 4320th Strategic Missile Wing on Feb. 1, 1958, the same day command authority over the base transferred from Air Training Command to Strategic Air Command.

The 4320 SMW was the first missile wing at Warren, but it also claimed the distinction as the first operational missile wing in SAC. Initially the main mission of the wing centered on monitoring the construction of the missile facilities and

sites. The wing took responsibility for 24 proposed Atlas missile sites in the early winter of 1958, awaiting deployment of the ICBMs anticipated for those sites.

Originally, escalating tensions called for urgent deployment of Atlas missiles to deter the Soviet threat. The determining factor in the locations of deployment was the potential range of these missiles; they needed to be within 5,000 miles of their targets inside the Soviet Union. However, threat of Soviet intermediate range submarines placed missiles on alert at coastal locations such as Vandenberg AFB, Calif., at risk. The threat influenced leaders to place future missiles sites further inland, to the heartland.

Maj. Gen. David Wade, Commander of the 1st Missile Division, from Cooke AFB, Calif., presided over the new wing's activation. He said that Warren was the perfect location for the country's first operational ICBMs.

Plans for the new organization called for a component of 4,000 to 5,000 personnel. The Air Force estimated construction of facilities for the missiles at



Courtesy photo

The very first Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile rolls through Warren's main gate, now Gate 2, on Oct. 2, 1959. To control those missiles, the 4320th Strategic Missile Wing was activated Feb. 1, 1958, the same day command authority over the base transferred from Air Training Command to Strategic Air Command.

over \$100 million, in a missile field with four launch complexes within a 20-mile radius of Cheyenne. The mayor of Cheyenne told General Wade he was proud to have the first operational missile wing at Cheyenne, even if it was a prime target in the burgeoning Cold War. Col. H. F. Muentner would remain base Commander with the acquisition of the new unit and oversee the initial construction.

However, before construction even began on the missile sites, the tenure of the 4320 SMW ended at Warren. After 23 days the base held an inactivation and activation ceremony on Feb. 23, 1958. The 4320 SMW made way for the 706th Strategic Missile Wing to take over responsibility for the future Atlas ICBM mission. Less than two months later, construction on the first Wyoming

Atlas sites (564 A and B) began. On Oct. 2, 1959, the first ICBM arrived at Warren and the base's position as an integral part of the nation's strategic deterrent began.

Even though the 4320 SMW played only a fleeting role in that historic beginning, that first wing at Warren was a pioneer, formed to stand alert with strategic ICBMs and hold the line in the Cold War.

## FISH FRY at DORM ESCAPE

**February 25**

**2 to 4 p.m.**

**For more information,**

**contact 1st Lt. Maura Sillas at 773- 6059**

**(in conjunction with)**

**Fall Hall's Dodgeball Tournament**

*Hosted by*



FPA

# Legacy ...

## Pilots reflect on being Tuskegee legacy heirs

**Staff Sgt. Thomas Doscher**  
1st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

**LANGLEY AFB, Va.** - Something special began July 19, 1941. For the first time in the history of military aviation, blacks were given an opportunity to prove themselves in the sky.

The first black aviators began their flight training at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Ala., and went to the famed 99th Fighter Squadron.

The Tuskegee Airmen had to fight not only the Nazis, but the prejudices within their own military. Despite being allowed to fly, military aviation units were segregated by race.

Today, the heirs of their legacy take to the skies above Langley.

Captains Glenn Gonzales and Alex Edwards are two black officers who fly F-15 Eagles in the 71st Fighter Squadron. While neither joined the Air Force because of the Tuskegee Airmen, they both agree hearing about the Tuskegee Airmen encouraged them to pursue their goals as pilots.

"I had an idea of who they were," Captain Gonzales said. "But not to the extent of their contributions."

He said it was his training at the Air Force Academy that first opened his eyes to their impact.

"One of the quotes we had to learn was in regards to the Tuskegee Airmen," he said. "To be honest, it seemed that these guys were just like all of us. They were Airmen like the rest of us."

Captain Edwards first learned about the Tuskegee Airmen from the 1995 HBO movie, "The Tuskegee Airmen."

"I thought it was a cool and inspiring story," he said. "The more I learned about it, the more I knew that (flying) was what I wanted to do."

By that time, he already knew he was going to fly. It was just a matter of how. His high school classmates just thought he was dreaming.

"There weren't a lot of black people doing it," he said. "They'd think, 'I'd never seen a black pilot before, so I don't think I'm

going to see one now.'"

While racism still exists in 21st century America, Captains Edwards and Gonzales said that today's Air Force welcomed them.

"The Tuskegee Airmen's experience was totally different," Captain Edwards said.

Both men said they've tried to live up to their legacy.

"I recruited for a while," Captain Edwards said. "I tried to get more African-Americans into the Air Force. I think some thought it was unattainable, but you don't know what's going to be hard until you try."

"I want to be the best officer, best pilot, best Airman I can," Captain Gonzales said. "Wherever that takes me, that's where I'll go."

Captain Gonzales said the Tuskegee legacy was one that can be embraced by all Airmen.

"They were just like me and just like you. These guys were warfighters for our nation. They did their job, not with the intent to make a name for black aviators, but to be fighters for their coun-



Photo by Senior Airman DeLicha Germany

**Capt. Glenn Gonzales is one of the many applicants to apply for membership as a Tuskegee Airman in the Hampton Roads area. He is a pilot for the 71st Fighter Squadron.**

try," Captain Gonzales said. "Their story shouldn't be reserved just for February. Their story should be celebrated throughout the year," he said.

## Personnel Services Delivery Transformation

### Changes will affect the way the Air Force does personnel business

**RANDOLPH AFB Texas** - A team of personnel experts began visiting major commands recently to train personnel specialists on the changes that will affect the way the Air Force does personnel business.

This new initiative, called Personnel Services Delivery Transformation, will use technology to place the capability for conducting routine personnel transactions into the hands of Airmen via Web-based services and contact centers. "We have historically provided per-

sonnel services primarily through face-to-face contact, and we do it well," said Lt. Gen. Roger Brady, Deputy Chief of Staff, personnel. "In the future, PSD will provide a new way of doing business ... one that will become more efficient by moving transactional work to the Web or contact centers."

While PSD will transform personnel services across the total force spectrum, the visiting teams will train personnelists on some changes that affect ac-

tive duty Airmen and are scheduled to take effect March 31. Several processes like retraining and retirements, currently worked through base level military personnel flights, will be self-initiated via the Web, and centrally managed and processed at the Air Force Contact Center in San Antonio.

"This training is the first step in changing the way we all think, even as personnelists, about the way we accomplish personnel transactions," said Col. Michael Maloney, Director of Personnel Services at the Air Force Personnel Center. "We're training our personnel specialists first and giving them the opportu-

nity to inform their customers."

The training will cover how Airmen will use Web-based applications via the virtual MPF to apply for retraining and retirement and how the contact center will process these and other transactions.

With convenient and secure access from any Internet-ready computer or telephone around the globe, Airmen will avoid waiting in lines, save time and fit their personnel business into their own schedule.

"PSD will provide our Airmen the same convenient 24/7 on-demand access to information much like they have come to expect from on-line banking and internet commerce," said Colonel Maloney.



# Learning curve

## Certification program helps students get ahead

**Airman 1st Connor Elayan**  
90th Space Wing Public Affairs

Some servicemembers are disappointed when they hear that Air Force Tuition Assistance does not cover dual-degrees. For others, a traditional degree is not something they are interested in pursuing.

As a solution for both, the Warren Education Center offers a one-time certification program that allows servicemembers to get a certificate of their choosing from an accredited institution.

"An active-duty servicemember can use tuition assistance to pursue one certificate during their career at a cost of up to \$9,000," said Kathleen Soucier, 90th Mission Support Squadron, Chief of Education and Training. "It can provide you with a specialty in a specific area, or provides individuals with a vocational alternative to the standard bachelor's or master's degree."

Capt. Chad Rogers, 90th Communication Squadron, is currently working on a professional certificate in personal fitness training. Since he already has a master's degree, he was unable to use his tuition assistance to pursue another.

"I have already used my tuition assistance for a master's degree in computer resources and information management so I'm not allowed to use TA for another degree program," said Captain Rogers. "When I saw the certificate program available, I began looking for professional certifications that

**"THE AIR FORCE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM ACTUALLY SAVES ME A LOT OF MONEY. THE COURSES I'M TAKING WOULD ADD UP TO OVER \$1500 IF I HAD TO PAY FOR THEM MYSELF."**

**- Capt. Chad Rogers**

*90th Communications Squadron*

I was interested in.

"The Air Force certificate program actually saves me a lot of money," said the captain. "The courses I'm taking would add up to over \$1,500 if I had to pay for them myself; and at the completion of the courses I will be certified as a personal fitness trainer."

A benefit of the certification program is that it allows people to pursue a certificate in many unique subjects. There are accredited certification programs available in a variety of specialties including nursing, housing inspection, automotive body repair, paralegal and even wine making.

First Lt. Kristi Richardson, 319th Missile Squadron, is currently working on a graduate certificate in winemaking and wine production through the University of California-Davis as well as a master's degree in project management from George Washington University.

Lieutenant Richardson likes the fact that she is able to pursue a master's degree while also

achieving more knowledge in her hobby.

"I need a master's to progress further in the Air Force, but my hobby is winemaking," said Lieutenant Richardson. "I found a grad certificate offered by UC Davis, and after talking with the education office, [I also] found out the Air Force would pay for my certificate."

The lieutenant also said the certification program will definitely help her in the future.

"I plan to continue making wine throughout my career, but once I separate, my fiancé (soon to be husband) and I plan to open a winery and brewhaus in Tennessee," said Lieutenant Richardson. "I think that my combined education of project developing and learning more in depth about winemaking will improve our chances of success in the business."

Mrs. Soucier agrees the certificate can definitely help servicemembers reach their goals in the future, even if they plan on continuing their education further.

"Since the certificate must be obtained through an accredited school, there is the possibility that credits may transfer into degree programs at the same or other accredited schools, so you are not getting something you can't build on," said Mrs. Soucier. "It has value because it comes from an accredited school and it is something to include on your résumé."

Senior Airman MonReko Walton, 90th Civil Engineer Squadron, is working toward both a certificate in small business auto repair and a bachelor's degree in mass media. He says the program is a huge benefit because he enjoys restoring old cars and he doesn't have to spend years in school to learn a specialty.

"With the certificate program you don't have to go to school for four years. You can just learn a trade and, in about a year or so, you have your certificate to show you are qualified for a certain job and [that] you have some experience," said Airman Walton. "I plan to use it by having something to fall back on."

All certification programs must be accredited to be approved by the education center. Furthermore, the one-time certification cap of \$9,000 does not exceed the annual tuition assistance amount of \$4,500. If a servicemember is pursuing a certificate beyond the annual tuition assistance amount, they must spread out their classes over two years.

For more information on the certification program, contact the education center at 773-2117.



# Teen program kicks off at Warren today

## Teen Center open at new community center; Pre-teen Center open at youth center

### Warren Youth Center

Warren debuts a new program today at the community center designed for teens, ages 13 to 18, and seventh graders.

Activities provided include pool tournaments, karaoke, video games, a dance competition video game, dart boards, basketball and volleyball. Special events, such as lock-ins, dances and monthly Teen Supreme Club meetings are in the works.

Operation Night Hoops, a recreational basketball league for teenagers, begins today. This league not only gives teens an opportunity to play basketball and improve their athletic skills, but the chance to learn teamwork and discipline in a healthy, drug-free environment. The program includes weekly discussions on drugs, alcohol

and tobacco, and periodic life skills workshops. This base-wide event is free, however refreshments are for sale.

A Sweetheart Dance is scheduled to be held at the community center 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Saturday. Pre-teens, ages 9 to 12 are invited to attend 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$3 for members and \$5 for nonmembers.

Warren also has a pre-teen program located at the youth center for children ages 9 to 12 offering video games, computers with Internet access, pool table, ping pong and an open gym. The children can also participate in the Fit Factor Program, which encourages physical activity. The pre-teens have dances, lock-ins and monthly Torch Club meetings at the youth center.



Photo by Senior Airman Lauren Hasinger

Staff Sgt. Daniel Penland, 90th Services Squadron In-Door Track NCOIC, shows off one of two brand new TVs at the Teen Center located in the new community center. Also available are computers with Internet connections, a pool table, dart boards, basketball, volleyball, karaoke and more.

The cost for both the teen and pre-teen program is \$36 for a year-long membership. Memberships may also be purchased monthly at \$3.

For more information, contact Andrea Black, Pre-Teen/Teen Coordinator at 773-2564.

### HOURS OF OPERATION

#### TEEN CENTER

MONDAYS THROUGH THURSDAYS FROM 3 TO 8 P.M.

FRIDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS FROM 3 TO 10 P.M.

#### PRE-TEEN CENTER

MONDAYS THROUGH THURSDAYS FROM 3 TO 7 P.M.

FRIDAYS FROM 3 TO 8 P.M.

SATURDAYS FROM 3 TO 7 P.M.

# CDC teacher wins Golden Apple Award

## Lead Education Tech. has worked with children for 22 years

*Golden Apple Award winner and Romeoville, Ill., native Tammy Stone talked with Senior Airman Lauren Hasinger about the curiosity of children, her future plans and having Channel 5 do a story about her. Mrs. Stone is the Lead Education Technician at the Warren Child Development Center.*

**How long have you worked at the Child Development Center?**

Six years.

**Have you worked with children elsewhere?**

Yes, I have been working with children for about 22 years. I have worked as a Day Care Provider as well as a Preschool Teacher in both military care facilities and private preschools. I have worked in Michigan, Texas, the Azores and Wyoming.

**What is a typical work day for you like?**

A typical work day is so much fun. I get to help children learn through exploring their curiosities.

**What ages are the children you teach?**

I teach 3 to 5 year olds.

**What is the most rewarding part of your job?**

The most rewarding part of my job is knowing that I make a difference in these children's education. Seeing the look on the children's faces when they learn something new is priceless. It's like seeing the

light bulb go on above their heads.

**What is the most challenging part?**

The most challenging part of the job is educating the parents on what their child is learning and what is age appropriate learning.

**How do you feel about being awarded the Golden Apple Award?**

Wow! I'm so honored that someone thinks that I am doing something above and beyond my job description.

**For those who may not know, what is the Golden Apple Award?**

The Golden Apple Award is an award for excellence in teaching.

**Have you won other awards?**

Yes, I won employee of the quarter in 2003.

**What was it like having Channel 5 do a story about you winning the award?**

It was an honor, but to be honest, it was a bit embarrassing to be made a big deal over. I come to work every day because I love these kids as if they were my own. I want the best for all of them and, if that means doing more for them, I will.

**What are your future career plans?**

I plan to continue working with preschoolers while I continue to work on my education degree.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Connor Elayan

Tammy Stone, Preschool Teacher at the Warren Child Development Center, plays a dinosaur game Tuesday to teach children about color. Mrs. Stone received the Golden Apple Award for excellence in education from CBS Channel 5 News.

## MAD CREW

### Scholarship Program

**Open to senior airmen and below.**  
Applications available at the education center or at any MAD Crew meeting beginning in February.



**Help keeping both stacks in check!**



For more information contact  
Senior Airman Monica Wong at [monica.wong@warren.af.mil](mailto:monica.wong@warren.af.mil).

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## NAF sale

The Nonappropriated Funds Sale in Building 313 is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 22, for E-4 and below, and from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 23 and 24 for everyone.

Items include sofas, chairs, end tables, armoires, coffee tables, headboards, mattress/box spring sets, framed pictures, dressers, night stands, crock pots, toasters, kitchen utensils and more.

For more information, call 773-2500.

## Opera and dinner

The National Endowment for the Arts presents a free performance from Great American Voices, a military base tour of melodies from opera and Broadway performed by the Opera Colorado 7 p.m. Feb. 23 at the Trail's End Club. Dinner choices range from \$13 to \$15 for club members. Dinner reservations are being accepted for 6 p.m. Dress is casual.

For more information, call 773-3048.

## Family Night is back

Families are invited to dinner 5 p.m. Feb. 22 at the Trail's End Club for games, movies, door prizes and a Southern buffet. The cost is \$6.95 for club members and \$8.95 for non-members, \$3.95 for children ages 6 to 10 and free for children 5 and younger.

For more information, call 773-3048.

## Operation Night Hoops

Youth ages 13 to 18 are invited to the Teen Center, 110 East Plaza, every Friday night, from 7 to 9 p.m. beginning Feb. 17 for Operation Night Hoops. The program also includes weekly discussions on drugs, alcohol and tobacco, periodic life skills workshops and a pledge to be drug, alcohol and tobacco free.

For more information, call the Youth Center at 773-2564.

## Bowl for free

Pick up an all new

Xtreme Bowling Punch-card at Warren Lanes, and earn a punch for each hour of Xtreme Bowling. Collect 10 punches and receive a free hour of bowling.

For more information, call Warren Lanes at 773-2210.

## Dodgeball tournament

A free dodgeball tournament is scheduled for 4 p.m. Feb. 25 at the Warren Community Center. Teams of five should sign up before Feb. 22. Winners receive two free hours of laser tag, trophies and surprise gifts. Second place winners receive a half-hour batting cage time. For more information, call 773-3511. A fish fry hosted by the Warren Company Grade Officers Council is at Dorm Escape before the tournament, from 2 to 4 p.m.

For more information, call 773-6059.

## Ski Jackson Hole

Outdoor recreation is hosting a ski trip to Jackson Hole, Wyo., today to

Monday. Jackson Hole has shopping, art galleries, restaurants, snowmobiling and elk refuge tours. The cost is \$195 per person (double occupancy) and includes transportation, ski or snowboard package and three nights lodging in downtown Jackson. Discounted lift tickets can be purchased for \$35 (active-duty military ID cardholders only) at Teton Village ski area or \$51 for DoD, military dependent or military retiree ID cardholders from ODR.

For more information, call 773-2988.

## Snowy Range ski trip

Outdoor recreation is hosting a ski trip to Snowy Range Feb. 25. The trip includes transportation, equipment and lift ticket. The cost for adults is \$42 and \$32 for children. Transportation only is \$15 per person. The trip departs ODR at 7 a.m. and returns approximately 6 p.m.

For more information, call 773-2988.

## Power steering flush special

Save \$10 on a power steering flush during the month of February. Call for an appointment.

The staff at the Auto Skills Center offers one-on-one instruction during all hours of operation.

For more information, call 773-3869.

## Basketball tournament

A basketball tournament with the military all-star team is today through Sunday at Freedom Hall.

## Pavilion rental

Looking for a venue in which to hold a rehearsal dinner, wedding reception, family reunion, retirement party, going away party or any other event that requires a casual environment? The base pavilion is available for rent and is suitable for use in any type of weather. The cost is \$35 per day. Make reservations at outdoor recreation.

For more information, call 773-2988.



Courtesy photo

## VALENTINE'S DAY MESSAGE

Deployed Warren member, Senior Airman Justin Langley, 380th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, pictured here with his military working dog, sends a Valentine's Day message to his family. "Happy Valentine's Day Meradith, Jourdan and Trinity. Dad will be home soon. Love, Justin."

Sponsored by the African-American Heritage Committee

# 3 SPECTACULAR EVENTS

➤ **Fashion Show**  
➤ *African Dance*  
➤ **REGGAE DANCE**

## FEB 18, 2006 AT THE TRAIL'S END CLUB

**Fashion Show & African Dance**  
**7 p.m.**



JOIN US AT THE  
**REGGAE DANCE**  
AFTER THE SHOW!!!

**celebrating community**

A Tribute to Black Fraternal, Social and Civic Institutions

## Education briefs

### Online tuition assistance briefings

The Warren Education Center conducts briefings to provide information on the new Air Force Portal/Air Force Virtual Education Center On-Line Tuition Assistance Program. Briefings are in the education center at 2 p.m. Fridays. For more information, contact the education center at 773-2117.

### Squadron education briefings

Representatives from the Warren Education Center are available to come to squadrons to provide information and handouts on the educational benefits and programs available at Warren. Education counselor and advisors are available to speak at commander's calls, staff meetings, or training sessions and would welcome the opportunity to provide this educational service. For more information, call the education center at 773-2117.

### Attention American Military University students

Richard McMullen, Education Coordinator for AMU will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 1 in Room 28 of the Warren Education Center to meet with students. For more information, contact the education center at 773-2117.

### Attention University of Phoenix students

A University of Phoenix representative is available at the Warren Education Center to meet with students enrolled in UOP programs from 1 to 3 p.m. Mondays in Room 28 of the education center. For more information, contact the education center at 773-2117.

### Commissioning workshop

Are you active-duty enlisted and interested in becoming a commissioned officer? The Warren Education Center is presenting a commissioning workshop at 2 p.m. March 14 in the education center. Presentations include AFROTC programs (AECF, ASCP, SOAR, and POC-ERP), OTS and the Air Force Academy and prep school. For more information and to pre-register for the workshop, call the education center at 773-2117.



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